

# PRESS RELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

August 3, 2006

## Contact Person

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Assistant U.S. Attorney

Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Isreal Flores, DOB 1/14/74, of St. Paul, Minnesota, was sentenced today in Madison by Chief U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to 262 months in prison, to be followed by a five-year term of supervised release, for conspiring to distribute methamphetamine in the Western District of Wisconsin between 2002 and 2005.

Beginning in October 2004, Flores and his co-defendant, Jesse Mateo Rodrigues, transported methamphetamine from St. Paul to Duluth, Minnesota and Superior, Wisconsin for distribution to others, including Paul A. Horvatich and Paul Letsos, both of whom have already been sentenced in U.S. District Court. Horvatich was sentenced on May 4, 2006, to 25 years in prison and Letsos was sentenced on May 18, 2006, to 57 months in prison. Rodrigues is scheduled to be sentenced on August 29, 2006.

At sentencing, Judge Crabb stated that Flores deserved a lengthy prison term due to his extensive criminal history. She noted that he had committed numerous felony offenses including violent crimes, crimes involving firearms, and that he had one prior drug felony as well.

The charges against Flores were the result of an investigation conducted by the

Douglas County Sheriff's Department, the Superior Police Department, and the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation - Narcotics Bureau. Prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul W. Connell.

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